## The State of Utashington



## Araclamation

**WHEREAS**, older Americans are treasured contributors to society, imparting their wisdom and offering connections to our history; and

WHEREAS, older individuals have contributed to our economic well-being, our communities and the workplace through civic leadership and mentoring; and

WHEREAS, our seniors are increasingly multi-cultural and multi-generational; more diverse socially, ethnically and economically than past generations; and

WHEREAS, it is important to support our older residents so they may enjoy active productive, healthy, and independent lives; and

WHEREAS, many older individuals need the assistance of their communities to thrive, and we must collaborate to find new and innovative ways to meet the needs of this expanding population; and

**WHEREAS**, it is appropriate that Washington State join the nation and designate the month of May as a time to celebrate the contributions of older Americans and to rededicate our efforts to better serve our elders;

*NOW, THEREFORE*, I, Christine O. Gregoire, Governor of the state of Washington, do hereby proclaim May 2008 as

## Older Americans Month

in Washington State, and I urge all citizens to join me in this special observance.

Signed this 16<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2008

Chris Argine

Governor Christine O. Gregoire